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News FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIANS



SOUTH CAROLINA STATE LIBRARY BOARD



Second Series, No. 13

July 1963

STATE LIBRARY BOARD

Services to Public Libraries

- Grants-in-aid
- Inter-library loans
- Professional reference service
- Consultant service to library boards
- On-the-spot assistance to librarians
- Preparation of bibliographies
- Films on library service
- Exhibits of children's books
- Professional library literature
- Library placement bureau
- Service to the blind
- Scholarships for graduate library training
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- Junior intern program

CONSULTANT FOR GREENVILLE COUNTY LIBRARY DEMONSTRATION

L. Marion Moshier, formerly head of extension service of the New York State Library and joint-author of "The Small Public Library," is spending six weeks as a consultant for the Greenville County Library Demonstration. She will study the extension department of the library and make recommendations for re-organization of the services.

Miss Moshier was in Columbia two years ago when she developed the certification plan for South Carolina public librarians.

Since her retirement Miss Moshier has been available as a library consultant, has travelled in this country and abroad, and has taught at Western Michigan University.

VISITORS FROM THAILAND

Three distinguished librarians from Thailand will arrive in South Carolina on June 30 to visit public libraries. Rasa Wongvangvu, Phan Siva, and Sook Pongsathit are in this country under the auspices of the Rockefeller Foundation. The State Library Board has arranged for Miss Rasa, Mr. Phan, and Mr. Sook to visit the Calhoun County Library, the Greenville County Library and its branches, Belton and Honea Path branches of the Anderson County Library, the Greenwood City and County Library, the Aiken-Barnwell-Edgefield Regional Library, and the Richland County Library. They are particularly interested in the smaller county libraries.

TEA TO HONOR VISITORS

The State Library Board has issued invitations to a tea on July 2 at the Greenville Woman's Club honoring Miss L. Marion Moshier and

the Thailand visitors: Miss Rasa Wongvangvu, Mr. Phan Siva, and Mr. Sook Pongsathit. Librarians and library trustees will have an opportunity to meet these distinguished guests.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR UNDERGRADUATE TRAINING IN LIBRARY SCIENCE

As part of its in-service training for personnel of public libraries in South Carolina, the State Library Board has awarded five scholarships for attendance at six weeks summer session and three weeks workshops of colleges offering courses in librarianship at the undergraduate level.

Mrs. Shelia B. Parker, Circulation Assistant at the Horry County Library, will attend a six week session at East Carolina College, Greenville, North Carolina.

Mrs. E. O. McMahan, Librarian, Dorchester County Library, and Joyce Mitchum, assistant at the Berkeley County Library, were awarded scholarships to attend the first three weeks workshop at Columbia College, June 10-28.

Attending the second Columbia College workshop July 8-26, will be Mrs. Eloise G. Gowder, Acting Librarian, Berkeley County Library, and Mrs. Maureen H. Lackey, Extension Department, Aiken-Barnwell-Edgefield Regional Library.

LEGISLATURE GRANTS INCREASED APPROPRIATION FOR SERVICE TO THE BLIND

The final appropriation act approved by the 1963 session of the State Legislature provided \$8,610 for service to the visually handicapped in South Carolina. This sum, which represents an increase of \$1,610, was granted only after librarians, blind readers, and interested citizens requested members of the legislature to make possible continued service for South Carolinians from the Regional Library for the Blind.

The increased appropriation was necessary because of the rising cost of library service. Following the approval of the grant, the State Library Board renewed the contract with the North Carolina State Library for the continuation of the Regional Library for the Blind. The library, which is jointly sponsored by the two states, circulates Talking Books to residents of the Carolinas. Approximately 700 South Carolinians have been receiving the service since it was inaugurated in 1961.

HOME DEMONSTRATION READING CLUB

During the past twelve months the Home Demonstration Club reading program has set new records. Three hundred thirteen club members received certificates or seals for completion of the reading program in 1962-63. This is a larger number than has been so recognized in any previous year. In addition, approximately 4500 reading lists were distributed to members in thirty-four counties.

The reading program is a joint project of the State Library Board and the Home Demonstration Agents. It is designed to introduce club members to the pleasures and values of reading. With the assistance of county and regional librarians, the staff of the State Library Board prepares a reading list each year. The local librarians and county agents plan and direct the reading program for each county.

PERSONNEL CHANGES AT STATE LIBRARY BOARD

R. Bryan Roberts, who has been in charge of the Reference and Interlibrary Loan Service of the State Library Board since 1959, resigned effective June 21, 1963. Mr. Roberts will join the staff of the Queens Borough Public Library, Jamaica, New York, on July 1.

Charles H. Busha will succeed Mr. Roberts on August 1. Mr. Busha held one of the first library school scholarships offered by the State Library Board and under the terms of the scholarship contract will complete his obligation to the Greenville County Library on July 31. Mr. Busha is a native of Pickens County and a graduate of Furman and Rutgers Universities.

PLANS FOR NEW BUILDINGS

Bamberg, Orangeburg, and Sumter Counties are planning new library buildings. In the November election Orangeburg County voters approved the expenditure of \$125,000 for a building. Efforts are being made to obtain additional funds from the Accelerated Public Works Project.

The Bamberg County Library Board considered improvements and an addition to the present building, but decided that a completely new and modern building would be more feasible.

The Sumter County Library Board plans a building costing approximately \$175,000 on a two acre lot in the Palmetto Park area which was donated by the City Council.

In addition to these new buildings work is proceeding on the addition to the Laurens County Library. An expenditure of \$125,000 for the purpose was approved in the November 6th election.

LIBRARIAN PREPARES HISTORICAL BROCHURE

Mrs. M. H. Mims, Edgefield County Librarian, has compiled a brochure describing historic houses and public buildings of Edgefield County for the Civic League. Mrs. Mims also prepared an historic map to accompany the brochure.

The Civic League is sponsoring a Visitors' Courtesy Center at the library and hundreds of out-of-town and out-of-state visitors have availed themselves of this service since it was begun in April.

The Edgefield County Library is a unit of the Aiken-Barnwell-Edgefield Regional Library.

LIBRARY EXHIBIT AT FARM AND HOME WEEK

In connection with the Clemson Farm and Home Week, the State Library Board is arranging an exhibit to demonstrate the extension of public library service in South Carolina and the types of material available to rural people. There will be a large map showing the extent of the service in the state and a bulletin board on which will be posted bookmobile schedules from county libraries over the state.

Each day a bookmobile from a county in the area will be on exhibit. Anderson, Greenville, Oconee, and Pickens county libraries have scheduled their bookmobiles at Clemson for this event. A member of the staff of the State Library Board as well as bookmobile personnel from the counties will be on duty at the exhibit.

LIBRARIES PLAN SUMMER ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

Vacation Reading Clubs emphasizing quality rather than quantity and stressing the pleasure as well as the profit from reading have been launched by many of the public libraries of South Carolina.

The Savannah River Girl Scout Council as part of its Community Service Project is providing assistance with the reading program in some of the libraries in the Aiken-Barnwell-Edgefield Regional Library. Senior scouts are assisting in the registration of members and helping younger readers record the books they've read.

Volunteers are manning the desk of the Hartsville Township Library so that the librarians can assist children in the selection of books.

The Women's Club of West Columbia is sponsoring the reading program of the R. H. Smith Branch of the Lexington County Library for the third summer. The club supplied all the material for the "Come to the Reading Circus" club and the members are assisting in the operation of the club.

Oconee and Pickens County Libraries having set a precedent with their joint operation of the Clemson Public Library are using the same theme, the Busy Bee Reading Club, for their summer reading programs.

The Richland County Public Library is continuing the practice of operating public school libraries during the summer months. Children reading at seven Columbia area school libraries will participate in the Vacation Reading Club sponsored by the Childrens' Department of the library.

A series of special summer story hours will be offered by a number of public libraries. In Walhalla, members of the Paul Hayne Circle will conduct a weekly story hour

in the Oconee County Library. The Lexington Tea and Topics Club will be in charge of the story hours at the Lexington Branch of the Lexington County Library. The Calhoun County Library will offer story hours for three age groups: pre-school and primary, intermediates and older children. Volunteers will assist the library staff in telling the stories.

ALA CONFERENCE

Three trustees of the Greenville County Library will attend institutes preceding the annual conference of the American Library Association in Chicago.

Jean Galloway, E. A. Burch, and Dr. George M. Grimball will attend the Library Buildings Institute and also the institute sponsored by the American Libraries Trustees Association. The theme of the institute is "Library Trustees - Leaders in Breaking the Barriers to Creative Inquiry." Miss Galloway is a member of the sub-committee on recruitment of the Trustees Association.

Estellene P. Walker, Director of the State Library Board, will attend the pre-conference meeting of the American Association of State Libraries. Standards for the Library Functions of the States will be presented and discussed prior to action by the membership at the business meeting.

Charles Stow, Librarian, Greenville County Library, will be in Chicago for the conference sessions, July 14-18.

CRITERIA FOR BOOKMOBILE SERVICE

Standards of Quality for Bookmobile Service is a recent ALA publication, covering objectives, organization and operation of bookmobile service; personnel; physical characteristics of the bookmobile; book stock and records. It is available from the American Library Association, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago 11, Illinois, at .75 cents a copy.

BUILDING REQUIREMENTS AFFECT LIBRARIES

A bill which was enacted by the General Assembly calls for public buildings to be constructed in the future to have conveniences for the physically handicapped built into entrances, restroom facilities, telephone placements, ramps, and stairways.

Compliance with the provisions of this act will be required in all future library construction.

OF LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS

Frances Reid, former Field Service Librarian, State Library Board now head of the Extension Department, Spartanburg Public Library, was interviewed on her recent Eastern Mediterranean tour for an article in the Spartanburg Herald Journal, May 19, 1963. Photographs showed Miss Reid sightseeing and back at her desk in the library.

An exhibit of painting, sculpture, and drawing by the students in Mrs. Lois P. Brice's art classes was on display at the Chester County Library during the week of May 13-18.

Mrs. Nancy Putnam, Assistant Librarian, Laurens County Library, has retired after 28 years of library work in Laurens County. She was the first bookmobile librarian and served in that capacity for 12 years.

Hughson Green and Arch Walker presented a framed facsimile of the Mayflower Compact to the Spartanburg Public Library. Mr. Green and Mr. Walker are members of the Society of the Mayflower Descendants.

During June the Oconee County Library exhibited the paintings of Hugh Donnell, politician, business man, and serious painter of Redding, Connecticut.

The Orangeburg County Free Library will remain open on Wednesday afternoons this summer.

Mrs. Ben P. Davies, Jr. is the chairman of the Aiken-Barnwell-Edgefield Regional Library Board. She succeeds the late W. B. S. Winans.

Mrs. Ray Lamb, who is in charge of the Cooper Branch of the Richland County Library, attended the Library Science Workshop at Columbia College, June 10-28.

The Oconee County Library has received a collection of long playing Masterworks Records from the Columbia Record Company.

Libraries which maintain a record collection may request a set of Columbia Masterworks from R. Buiter, Controller, Columbia Records, 1473 Barnum Avenue, Bridgeport 8, Connecticut. A copy of a letter of exemption under Internal Revenue Code Section 501 must accompany the request. A letter of exemption can be secured by sending two copies of the law establishing the library to the District Director, Internal Revenue, Columbia, S. C., Attention: P. M. Hook.

The trustees of the Greenville County Library have voted to air condition the childrens' room of the main library.

Mrs. James DeLoache, Jr., assistant at the Florence Public Library, has enrolled for the Library Science Workshop at Columbia College, July 9-26.

Mrs. Dowling Woodham has succeeded Mrs. J. E. McCutcheon, Jr. as chairman of the Lee County Public Library Board.

YOUR PROBLEMS
by Anne Library

Dear Anne:

I'm just fed up with the antics of the characters who operate our bookmobile. They arrive in the vicinity of the time they're supposed to, maybe 20 minutes early or 30 minutes late. They refuse to stop at my house and I have to get to a filling station a half a mile away. They're always forgetting to bring the books I requested and they're snippy about the type of good love stories I want to read. You should hear them yell at some poor kid who's taking cards out of the books or playing at driving the bookmobile and you know how small boys love machinery. No matter what time they arrive they're always saying, "Please hurry and select your books - we're due at our next stop right now". The bookmobile usually looks like a tornado just passed through, scrambling the books and plastering the shelves and floor with dust, sand and assorted debris. I have other complaints but I won't go into them now.

What do you suggest I do, I've called the library when they were so late I'd given up hope but nobody there had any idea of the whereabouts of the bookmobile. I've reported all the other things but nothing's been changed - for the better, anyway.

It seems to me these people have an easy life - drawing a good salary just to ride around over the county. They could be more polite and obliging to me. After all I'm a

Taxpayer

Dear Taxpayer:

If it weren't for the fact that you are evidently an irate "taxpayer" I'd be the first to commiserate with you. After due consideration I feel that I should have more information before condemning the bookmobile staff.

I hasten to point out - on their behalf - that bookmobile service is not a personal service and economy of operation does not permit house to house service. You must remember that the bookmobile is a library and library regulations regarding behavior must be observed. I agree that enforcing regulations can be done without "yelling" but I'd like to ask if that's your interpretation of the enforcing.

Is the irregular schedule the exception or the rule? Shifting from winter to summer schedules can cause a temporary disruption of schedule.

You are perfectly correct in thinking that schedules should be followed and good housekeeping practices prevail. Schedules should be printed in the local paper and posted by the telephone in the main library. There have been cases of emergencies in the family of bookmobile attendants when it was necessary to locate them immediately - it would not have been possible had the schedule not been followed.

Don't ever feel that the life of a bookmobile librarian is just a bed of roses. It is interesting, rewarding and satisfying but think of the too hot, too cold and rainy days. Do you know what the salary is - and have you compared it with that for similar occupations? Do that before you make such sweeping statements. Why don't you ask to accompany them on a route or two before making final judgement.

I suggest that you request a conference with the head librarian and discuss the situation with her. I'm sure she would appreciate your suggestions and you will benefit from learning more about the operation of the library.

Anne

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